NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

PROGRAM AREA: POLITICAL SCIENCE

1. Catalog Description of the Course. [Follow accepted catalog format.]

Prefix POLS Course# 316 Title STATE AND LOCAL POLITICS AND POLICY Units (3)
3 hours Lecture per week

Prerequisites
Corequisites

Description Examines the structures, functions, policies, politics and administration of subnational governments in the United States.

Gen Ed Categories
Lab Fee Required

Graded A - F
Repeatable for up to units

Lab Fee Required
Optional (Student’s choice)

Total Completions Allowed
Multiple Enrollment in same semester

2. Mode of Instruction.

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Hours per Unit</th>
<th>Benchmark Enrollment</th>
<th>Graded Component</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>Seminar</td>
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<td>Laboratory</td>
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<td>Activity</td>
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3. Justification and Learning Objectives for the Course. (Indicate whether required or elective, and whether it meets University Writing, and/or Language requirements) [Use as much space as necessary]

Justification: This is an elective course in the political science major. State and local government is a common course taught by political science programs, which familiarizes students with what is perhaps the least understood but most important level of governments for most Americans.

Learning Objectives:
Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

- Describe the structure and function of local and state government in the US and California
- Think critically about the advantages and disadvantages of the system of direct democracy as it exists in California today
- Discuss the major issues of public policy and the problems that currently impact California today
- Evaluate alternative public policies and make recommendations for implementation based on quantitative tools of analysis
- Assess the status of federalism and the struggle for power between the branches
- Conduct a research project on a local government issue facing California today

4. Is this a General Education Course YES ☐ NO ☒

If Yes, indicate GE category and attach GE Criteria Form:

A (English Language, Communication, Critical Thinking)
A-1 Oral Communication ☐
A-2 English Writing ☐
A-3 Critical Thinking ☐

B (Mathematics, Sciences & Technology)
B-1 Physical Sciences ☐
B-2 Life Sciences – Biology ☐
B-3 Mathematics – Mathematics and Applications ☒
B-4 Computers and Information Technology ☐
5. **Course Content in Outline Form.**  
*Be as brief as possible, but use as much space as necessary*

(Press enter for the next bulleted item)

- State and Local government in a system of federalism
- State Constitutions
- Institutions: Executive, Legislative and Judicial
- Citizen Participation and elections
- Direct Democracy
- Public Administration in the States
- The case of California
- Local government and the States
- The Structure and function of local government
- State and local finance
- Local government in California
- Policy issues confronting California state and local government
- Education policy
- Economic Development
- Environmental Policy
- Criminal Justice
- Social Welfare Policy

Does this course overlap a course offered in your academic program? YES ☐ NO ☒
If YES, what course(s) and provide a justification of the overlap?

Does this course overlap a course offered in another academic area? YES ☐ NO ☒
If YES, what course(s) and provide a justification of the overlap?
Signature of Academic Chair of the other academic area is required on the consultation sheet below.

6. **Cross-listed Courses (Please fill out separate form for each PREFIX)**

List Cross-listed Courses

Signature of Academic Chair(s) of the other academic area(s) is required on the consultation sheet below

Department responsible for staffing: POLS

7. **References.**  
*Provide 3 - 5 references on which this course is based and/or support it.*

(Press enter for the next number)

8. List Faculty Qualified to Teach This Course.

Scott Frisch, Dan Wakelee, New Hire

   a. Projected semesters to be offered: Fall ☐ Spring ☒ Summer ☐

10. New Resources Required. YES ☐ NO ☒
    If YES, list the resources needed and obtain signatures from the appropriate programs/units on the consultation sheet below.
    a. Computer (data processing), audio visual, broadcasting needs, other equipment)
    
    b. Library needs
    
    c. Facility/space needs

11. Will this new course alter any degree, credential, certificate, or minor in your program? YES ☐ NO ☒
    If, YES attach a program modification form for all programs affected.

Scott Frisch
Proposer of Course
9/20/2005
Date